Barcode 470800 Comm: RCS 03/20/2006 03:52 PM

596-1915-06

2

7

Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on Transportation

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to vessels; amending s.

3 206.606, F.S.; revising provisions governing

4 the use of moneys in the State Game Trust Fund

5 in the Fish and Wildlife Conservation

6 Commission; revising criteria governing

rulemaking by the commission regarding a

8 Florida Boating Improvement Program and

9 criteria for funding eligible projects;

10 amending s. 327.59, F.S.; authorizing marina

owners, operators, employees, and agents to

12 take actions to secure vessels during severe

weather and to charge fees and be held harmless

14 for such service; authorizing contract

15 provisions and notice relating to removing or

16 minimizing damage to vessels and protection of

marina property and the environment; amending

s. 327.60, F.S.; providing for regulation by

19 local governments of the mooring or anchoring

of floating structures or live-aboard vessels;

amending s. 328.64, F.S.; requiring vessel

22 owners to notify the Department of Highway

23 Safety and Motor Vehicles on a form prescribed

24 by the department concerning ownership,

destruction, or abandonment of a vessel;

26 requiring the department to attach the form to

27 each vessel title it issues or renews;

28 requiring the department to adopt rules that

29 require correction of the address of the holder

of a certificate of registration; amending s.

31 328.72, F.S.; revising provisions governing

12:27 PM

03/17/06

Barcode 470800

596-1915-06

1 2

3

4

5 6

7

8

9

11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

21

2223

2.4

25

2627

28

29

30

31

distribution of certain fees concerning vessel registration; disallowing the use of the proceeds of such fees for manatee and marine mammal protection and recovery; requiring counties to provide an annual report to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission concerning use of such fees; removing a provision authorizing the commission to grant an exception to reporting requirements; providing for redistribution of fees to the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund rather than the county if the report is not provided; providing for use of funds so redistributed; amending s. 376.11, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the Florida Coastal Protection Trust Fund to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 376.15, F.S.; prohibiting the storage, abandonment, or leaving of a derelict vessel in the state; specifying officers authorized to remove certain derelict vessels from public waters; providing that certain costs are recoverable; requiring the Department of Legal Affairs to represent the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in certain actions; expanding eligibility for disbursement of grant funds for the removal of derelict vessels; amending s. 403.813, F.S.; providing exemptions from permitting by the Department of Environmental Protection for certain floating vessel platforms; directing the department to adopt a general permit for certain platforms;

Barcode 470800

596-1915-06

1 2

3

4

5 6

7

8

9

10 11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

21

2223

24

25

2627

28

29

revising provisions that prohibit more stringent regulation by a local government; amending s. 705.101, F.S.; defining certain vessels as abandoned property; amending s. 705.103, F.S.; applying provisions denying a certificate of registration to the owner of an abandoned or lost vessel; amending s. 823.11, F.S.; defining the term "derelict vessel"; revising provisions relating to derelict vessels and the removal of such vessels; specifying which officers may remove such vessels; providing that vessel removal may be funded by certain grants; requiring the Department of Legal Affairs to represent the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in certain actions to collect removal costs from the owner of a removed vessel; applying provisions denying a certificate of registration to such an owner; deleting a provision authorizing the commission to delegate certain authority to local governments under certain circumstances; authorizing certain private property owners to remove a derelict vessel at the expense of the vessel owner; providing for notice to the vessel owner prior to removal; providing for jurisdiction of a criminal court to order civil penalties for certain violations; providing an effective date.

30

31 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

596-1915-06

1 2

3

5

7

8

10

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

2122

23

2.4

25

26

2728

29

30

31

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 206.606, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

206.606 Distribution of certain proceeds.--

- (1) Moneys collected pursuant to ss. 206.41(1)(g) and 206.87(1)(e) shall be deposited in the Fuel Tax Collection Trust Fund. Such moneys, after deducting the service charges imposed by s. 215.20, the refunds granted pursuant to s. 206.41, and the administrative costs incurred by the department in collecting, administering, enforcing, and distributing the tax, which administrative costs may not exceed 2 percent of collections, shall be distributed monthly to the State Transportation Trust Fund, except that:
- (b) \$2.5 million shall be transferred to the State Game Trust Fund in the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in each fiscal year and used for recreational boating activities, and freshwater fisheries management and research. The transfers must be made in equal monthly amounts beginning on July 1 of each fiscal year. The commission shall annually determine where unmet needs exist for boating-related activities, and may fund such activities in counties where, due to the number of vessel registrations, sufficient financial resources are unavailable.
- 1. A minimum of \$1.25 million shall be used to fund local projects to provide recreational channel marking and other uniform waterway markers; public boat ramps, boat lifts and hoists, marine railways, and other public boat launching facilities; derelict vessel removal; aquatic plant control, and other local boating related activities. In funding the projects, the commission shall give priority consideration as follows:
 - a. Unmet needs in counties with populations of 100,000

596-1915-06

1 or less.

2 3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12 13

- b. Unmet needs in coastal counties with a high level of boating related activities from individuals residing in other counties.
- 2. The remaining \$1.25 million may be used for recreational boating activities and freshwater fisheries management and research.
- 3. The commission is authorized to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement a Florida Boating Improvement Program similar to the program administered by the Department of Environmental Protection and established in rules 62D-5.031 - 62D-5.036, Florida Administrative Code, to determine projects eligible for funding under this subsection.

15 16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23 24

25

26 27

28

29

30

14

On February 1 of each year, the commission shall file an annual report with the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives outlining the status of its Florida Boating Improvement Program, including the projects funded, and a list of counties whose needs are unmet due to insufficient financial resources from vessel registration fees.

Section 2. Section 327.59, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.59 Marina evacuations.--

(1) After June 1, 1994, marinas may not adopt, maintain, or enforce policies pertaining to evacuation of vessels which require vessels to be removed from marinas following the issuance of a hurricane watch or warning, in order to ensure that protecting the lives and safety of vessel 31 owners is placed before interests of protecting property.

Barcode 470800

596-1915-06

1 2

3

5

7

8 9

10 11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

21

22 23

2.4 2.5

26 27

28

29

30

(2) Nothing in this section may be construed to restrict the ability of an owner of a vessel or the owner's authorized representative to remove a vessel voluntarily from a marina at any time or to restrict a marina owner from dictating the kind of cleats, ropes, fenders, and other measures that must be used on vessels as a condition of use of a marina. After a tropical storm or hurricane watch has been issued, a marina owner or operator, or an employee or agent of such owner or operator, may take actions to further secure any vessel within the marina to minimize damage to a vessel, the marina property, and the environment. Such a marina owner, operator, employee, or agent may charge reasonable fees for further securing of a vessel, may not be held liable for any damage incurred to a vessel from such storms or hurricanes, and shall be held harmless as a result of such actions. This section does not provide immunity to a marina operator, employee, or agent for any intentional or negligent act that causes damage to the vessel during the removal or storage permitted under this section.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in order to minimize damage to a vessel and protect marina property and the environment, a marina owner by contract may provide that if a boat owner fails to promptly remove a vessel from a marina after issuance of a tropical storm or hurricane watch, the marina owner, operator, or an employee or agent of the owner or operator may remove the vessel from its slip or take whatever actions are deemed necessary in order to minimize damage to a vessel and to protect marina property and the environment. A marina owner, operator, employee, or agent may charge the vessel owner a 31 reasonable fee for any such services rendered. In order to add

Barcode 470800

596-1915-06

such a provision to a contract, the marina owner must include in any such contract, in a font of at least 10-point type, a notice to the vessel owner which is in substantially the following form:

5 б

1

2

3

NOTICE TO BOAT OWNER

7 8

9

10

11

12

13 14

15

16

17

18

19

20

The undersigned hereby informs you that in the event you fail to remove your vessel from the marina promptly (time line to be determined) after the issuance of a tropical storm or hurricane watch for______, Florida, under Florida law the undersigned or his or her employees or agents are authorized to remove your vessel from its slip or take any and all other actions deemed appropriate by the undersigned or his or her employees or agents in order to secure your vessel and protect marina property. You are further notified that you may be charged a reasonable fee for any such action.

21 22

23 24

26 27

28

29

30

Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 327.60, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

25 327.60 Local regulations; limitations.--

(2) Nothing contained in the provisions of This section <u>does not</u> shall be construed to prohibit local governmental authorities from the enactment or enforcement of regulations that which prohibit or restrict the mooring or anchoring of floating structures or live-aboard vessels within 31 their jurisdictions or of any vessels permitted under s.

596-1915-06

6 7

8 9

10 11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18 19

20

21

22 23

2.4

25

26

27 28

29

30

327.40 within the marked boundaries of mooring fields. 1

2 However, local governmental authorities may not regulate the

3 anchoring outside such mooring fields are prohibited from

regulating the anchorage of non-live-aboard vessels engaged in

the exercise of rights of navigation. 5

Section 4. Section 328.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

328.64 Change of interest and address.--

(1) The owner shall furnish the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles notice of the transfer of all or any part of his or her interest in a vessel registered or titled in this state pursuant to this chapter or chapter 328 or of the destruction or abandonment of such vessel, within 30 days thereof, on a form prescribed by the department. Such transfer, destruction, or abandonment shall terminate the certificate for such vessel, except that in the case of a transfer of a part interest which does not affect the owner's right to operate such vessel, such transfer shall not terminate the certificate. Effective July 1, 2006, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall attach the notice of transfer form it prescribes pursuant to this subsection to each vessel title issued or renewed by the department.

(2) Any holder of a certificate of registration shall notify the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or the county tax collector within 30 days, if his or her address no longer conforms to the address appearing on the certificate and shall, as a part of such notification, furnish the department or such county tax collector with the new address. The department shall may provide in its rules and regulations 31 for the surrender of the certificate bearing the former

596-1915-06

3

5 6

7

8

9

10 11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

21

22 23

2.4

25

26

27 28

29

30

address and its replacement with a certificate bearing the new address or for the alteration of an outstanding certificate to show the new address of the holder.

Section 5. Subsection (15) of section 382.72, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

328.72 Classification; registration; fees and charges; surcharge; disposition of fees; fines; marine turtle

stickers.--(15) DISTRIBUTION OF FEES. -- Except for the first \$2, \$1 of which shall be remitted to the state for deposit into the Save the Manatee Trust Fund created within the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and \$1 of which shall be remitted to the state for deposit into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund to fund a grant program for public launching facilities, pursuant to s. 327.47, giving priority consideration to counties with more than 35,000 registered vessels, moneys designated for the use of the counties, as specified in subsection (1), shall be distributed by the tax collector to the board of county commissioners for use only as provided in this section. Such moneys to be returned to the counties are for the sole purposes of providing recreational channel marking; and public boat ramps, boat lifts and hoists, marine railways, and other public boat launching facilities: <u>derelict vessel removal;</u> and <u>other boating-related activities</u>, for removal of vessels and floating structures deemed a hazard to public safety and health under for failure to comply with s. 327.53, and for manatee and marine mammal protection and recovery. Counties shall that demonstrate through an annual detailed accounting report of vessel registration revenues that at least \$1 of the registration fees were spent as 31 provided in this subsection on boating infrastructure shall

596-1915-06	
370 1713 00	

1	only be required to transfer the first \$1 of the fees to the
2	Save the Manatee Trust Fund. This report shall be provided to
3	the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission no later than
4	November 1 of each year. <u>If by January 1 of any year, a county</u>
5	has not provided the commission with a detailed annual
6	accounting report for the prior year which meets the criteria
7	in this subsection, the tax collector of that county may not
8	distribute the moneys designated for the use of the counties,
9	as specified in subsection (1), to the board of county
10	commissioners but shall, for the next calendar year, remit
11	such moneys to the state for deposit into the Marine Resources
12	Conservation Trust Fund. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation
13	Commission shall return any moneys so remitted to the county
14	if the county fully complies with this section during that
15	calendar year. Absent such compliance, any such remitted
16	moneys shall remain in the trust fund and may be used to fund
17	a grant program for public launching facilities pursuant to s.
18	327.47. The commission shall provide an exemption letter to
19	the department by December 15 of each year for qualifying
20	counties.
21	Section 6. Paragraph (g) of subsection (4) of section
22	376.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
23	376.11 Florida Coastal Protection Trust Fund
24	(4) Moneys in the Florida Coastal Protection Trust
25	Fund shall be disbursed for the following purposes and no
26	others:
27	(g) The funding of a grant program to coastal local
28	governments, pursuant to s. 376.15(2)(b) and (c), for the
29	removal of derelict vessels from the public waters of the
30	state.
31	Section 7. Section 376.15, Florida Statutes, is

Barcode 470800

596-1915-06

1

2 3

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20 21

22 23

2.4

25

26

2.7

28

29

30

amended to read:

376.15 Derelict vessels; removal from public waters.--

- (1) It is unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to store, or abandon any derelict vessel, as defined in s. 823.11(1), within this state in a wrecked, junked, or substantially dismantled condition or abandoned upon any public waters or at any port in this state without the consent of the agency having jurisdiction thereof or docked at any private property without the consent of the owner of the private property.
- (2)(a) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and its officers and all law enforcement officers as specified in s. 327.70 are is hereby designated as the agency of the state authorized and empowered to remove any derelict vessel as <u>defined in s. 823.11(1)</u> described in subsection (1) from public waters. All costs incurred by the commission or other law enforcement agency in the removal of any abandoned or derelict vessel shall be recoverable against the owner of the vessel. The Department of Legal Affairs shall represent the commission in such actions.
- (b) The commission may establish a program to provide grants to coastal local governments for the removal of derelict vessels from the public waters of the state. The program shall be funded from the Florida Coastal Protection Trust Fund. Notwithstanding the provisions in s. 216.181(11), funds available for grants may only be authorized by appropriations acts of the Legislature.
- (c) The commission shall adopt by rule procedures for submitting a grant application and criteria for allocating available funds. Such criteria shall include, but not be 31 limited to, the following:

596-1915-06

1

3

5 6

7

8

10

11

12 13

14

15 16

17

18

19

2021

22

2.4

25

2627

28

29

30 31

- 1. The number of derelict vessels within the jurisdiction of the applicant.
- 2. The threat posed by such vessels to public health or safety, the environment, navigation, or the aesthetic condition of the general vicinity.
- 3. The degree of commitment of the local government to maintain waters free of abandoned and derelict vessels and to seek legal action against those who abandon vessels in the waters of the state.
- (d) This section shall constitute the authority of the commission for such removal, but is not intended to be in contravention of any applicable federal act.
- (e) The Department of Legal Affairs shall represent the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in such actions.
- Section 8. Paragraph (s) of subsection (2) of section 403.813, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 403.813 Permits issued at district centers; exceptions.--
- (2) A permit is not required under this chapter, chapter 373, chapter 61-691, Laws of Florida, or chapter 25214 or chapter 25270, 1949, Laws of Florida, for activities associated with the following types of projects; however, except as otherwise provided in this subsection, nothing in this subsection relieves an applicant from any requirement to obtain permission to use or occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund or any water management district in its governmental or proprietary capacity or from complying with applicable local pollution control programs authorized under this chapter or other requirements of county and municipal governments:
 - (s) The construction, installation, operation, or

596-1915-06

2

3

5

7

8 9

10

11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20 21

22 23

2.4

25

26 27

28

29

30

maintenance of floating vessel platforms or floating boat lifts, provided that such structures:

- 1. Float at all times in the water for the sole purpose of supporting a vessel so that the vessel is out of the water when not in use;
- 2. Are wholly contained within a boat slip previously permitted under ss. 403.91-403.929, 1984 Supplement to the Florida Statutes 1983, as amended, or part IV of chapter 373; or are, when associated with a dock that is exempt under this subsection or associated with a permitted dock with no defined boat slip; or are attached to a bulkhead on a parcel of land where there is no other docking structure and, do not exceed a combined total of 500 square feet, or 200 square feet in an Outstanding Florida Water;
- 3. Are not used for any commercial purpose or for mooring vessels that remain in the water when not in use, and do not substantially impede the flow of water, create a navigational hazard, or unreasonably infringe upon the riparian rights of adjacent property owners, as defined in s. 253.141;
- 4. Are constructed and used so as to minimize adverse impacts to submerged lands, wetlands, shellfish areas, aquatic plant and animal species, and other biological communities, including locating such structures in areas where no seagrasses are least dense exist if such areas are present adjacent to the dock or bulkhead; and
- 5. Are not constructed in areas specifically prohibited for boat mooring under conditions of a permit issued in accordance with ss. 403.91-403.929, 1984 Supplement to the Florida Statutes 1983, as amended, or part IV of 31 chapter 373, or other form of authorization issued by a local

Bill No. <u>SB 2128</u>

Barcode 470800

596-1915-06 1 government. 2 3 Structures that qualify for this exemption are relieved from any requirement to obtain permission to use or occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement 5 Trust Fund and shall not be subject to any permitting 7 requirement, registration requirement, or other more stringent regulation by any local government. The exemption provided in 8 9 this paragraph <u>is</u> shall be in addition to the exemption provided in paragraph (b). By January 1, 2003, The department 10 11 shall adopt a general permit by rule for the construction, installation, operation, or maintenance of those floating 12 vessel platforms or floating boat lifts that do not qualify 13 for the exemption provided in this paragraph but do not cause 14 significant adverse impacts to occur individually or 15 16 cumulatively. The issuance of such general permit shall also 17 constitutes constitute permission to use or occupy lands owned 18 by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust 19 Fund. Structures that qualify for Upon the adoption of the 20 rule creating such general permit are not subject to any permitting requirement, registration requirement, or other 21 more stringent regulation by any, no local government shall 22 23 impose a more stringent regulation on floating vessel 2.4 platforms or floating boat lifts covered by such general 25 permit. Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 705.101, Florida 26 27 Statutes, is amended to read: 28 705.101 Definitions. -- As used in this chapter: 29 (3) "Abandoned property" means all tangible personal 30 property that does not have an identifiable owner and that has 31 been disposed on public property in a wrecked, inoperative, or

596-1915-06

2

3

5

6

7

8

10

12

13

14

15

17

18 19

20

21

22

2.4

25

26

2728

29

30

31

partially dismantled condition or has no apparent intrinsic value to the rightful owner. The term includes derelict vessels as defined in s. 823.11(1) determined to be derelict by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or a county or municipality in accordance with the provisions of s. 823.11 are included within this definition.

Section 10. Subsection (4) of section 705.103, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

705.103 Procedure for abandoned or lost property.--

(4) The owner of any abandoned or lost property who, after notice as provided in this section, does not remove such property within the specified period shall be liable to the law enforcement agency for all costs of removal, storage, and destruction of such property, less any salvage value obtained by disposal of the property. Upon final disposition of the property, the law enforcement officer shall notify the owner, if known, of the amount owed. In the case of an abandoned vessel boat or motor vehicle, any person who neglects or refuses to pay such amount is not entitled to be issued a certificate of registration for such vessel boat or motor vehicle, or any other vessel boat or motor vehicle, until such costs have been paid. The law enforcement officer shall supply the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles with a list of persons whose <u>vessel</u> boat registration privileges or whose motor vehicle privileges have been revoked under this subsection. Neither the department nor any other person acting as agent thereof shall issue a certificate of registration to a person whose vessel boat or motor vehicle registration privileges have been revoked, as provided by this subsection, until such costs have been paid.

	596-1915-06
1	amended to read:
2	823.11 Abandoned and derelict vessels; removal;
3	penalty
4	(1) As used in this section the term "derelict vessel"
5	means a vessel, as defined in s. 327.02, which is left,
6	stored, or abandoned:
7	(a) In a wrecked, junked, or substantially dismantled
8	condition upon any public waters of this state;
9	(b) At any port in this state without the consent of
10	the agency having jurisdiction over that port; or
11	(c) At a dock or beach on the property of another
12	without the consent of the owner of the property.
13	(2)(1) It is unlawful for any person, firm, or
14	corporation to store, or leave, or abandon any derelict vessel
15	within this state as defined by maritime law in a wrecked,
16	junked, or substantially dismantled condition or abandoned
17	upon or in any public water or at any port in this state
18	without the consent of the agency having jurisdiction thereof,
19	or docked at any private property without the consent of the
20	owner of such property.
21	(3)(a)(2) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation
22	Commission and its officers and all law enforcement officers
23	as specified in s. 327.70 are is designated as the agency of
24	the state authorized and empowered to remove or cause to be
25	removed any abandoned or derelict vessel from public waters in
26	any instance when the same obstructs or threatens to obstruct
27	navigation or in any way constitutes a danger to the
28	environment. Removal of vessels pursuant to this section may
29	be funded by grants provided under s. 206.606 or s. 376.15.
30	Derelict vessels may be removed from public waters or other
31	public property as provided in s. 705.103. All costs incurred

Barcode 470800

596-1915-06

3

5

7

8 9

10

11

12 13

14

15

17

18

19

20

21

22 23

25

26 27

28

29

30

by the commission or other law enforcement agency in the removal of any abandoned or derelict vessel as set out above shall be recoverable against the owner thereof. The Department of Legal Affairs shall represent the commission in such actions. As provided in s. 705.103(4), any person who neglects or refuses to pay such costs is not entitled to be issued a certificate of registration for the vessel that was removed or for any other vessel or motor vehicle until such costs have been paid. Pursuant to an agreement with the governing body of a county or municipality, and upon a finding by the commission that the county or municipality is competent to undertake said responsibilities, the commission may delegate to the county or municipality its authority to remove or cause to be removed an abandoned or derelict vessel from public waters within the county or municipality. (b) When a derelict vessel is docked or grounded at or beached upon the private property of another without the consent of the owner of the property, such owner may, at his or her option, remove the vessel at the expense of the owner of the vessel 60 days after compliance with the notice requirements specified in s. 328.17(5). Any notice given

and properly addressed with postage prepaid. 2.4

(4)(3) Any person, firm, or corporation violating this act commits is quilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree and shall be punished as provided by law. Conviction under this subsection does not bar assessment and collection of the civil penalties provided in s. 376.16 for violation of s. 376.15. The court having jurisdiction over the criminal offense, 31 notwithstanding any jurisdictional limitations on the amount

pursuant to this paragraph is presumed delivered when it is

deposited with the United States Postal Service, certified,

Bill No. <u>SB 2128</u>

Barcode 470800

-	in co	nt	rov	/er	sy,	ma	У	ord	ler	th	ıe .	imp	si	tio	n o	f s	ucl	1 C	ivi	1 r	ena	lty
2	in ac	ldi	tic	n	to	any	s	ent	en	ce	im	pose	ed	for	th	ес	riı	nina	al	off	ens	se.
3			Sec	cti	on	12.		Thi	s	act	: si	hal:	L t	ake	ef	fec	tι	ıpoı	n b	ecc	omir	ng a
ŀ	law.																					
5																						
5																						
7																						
3																						
)																						
)																						
-																						
2																						
3																						
Ŀ																						
5																						
5																						
7																						
}																						
)																						
)																						
?																						
} <u>{</u>																						
5																						
5																						
,																						
3																						
,																						